



## Deer Path Middle School APT Meeting Minutes for 9/17/2013

Meeting Commenced at 9:02 a.m.  
Meeting Adjourned at 10:41 a.m.

### Attendees

Maria Allen, Jorie Alutto, Germaine Arson, Martha Avery, Penelope Boardman, Mary Brennan, Tom Cardamone, Renee Devore, Patti Fleser, Kathy Ivinjack, Amy Kelly, Lynne Kennedy, Sushama Krishnaswamy, Michael Kroll, LeaAnne LaVanway, Lynne Lawler, Susan Lewin, Marra Lochiatto, Jan MacDougal, Mary Manzer, Kirsten Maxwell, Anna McEvoy, Megan Morris, Laura Montgomery, Tiffany Notz, Rebecca Oline, Liz Olsen, Lisa Burton Radzely, Cathy Ramsay, Mary Robertson, Micaiah Robinson, Molly Sarver, Lindsay Seaman, Mari Simeck, Anne Skinner, Theresa Speed, Carolann Stickler, Paul Suminski, Christie Theis, Melanie Thornberry, Natalie Torcolese, Diana Wetterman, Tiffany Wiesner, Jenny Zinser, Jennifer Karras

### President – Call to Order

Christie welcomed the Board and guests and called the meeting to order.

### Guest Speaker – Patti Fleser, DPM Library Media Specialist

- This is Patti's 7<sup>th</sup> year in the district as a library media specialist and she works on both the 5/6 and 7/8 side of DPM
- All Deer Path Reads ([alldeerpathreads.weebly.com](http://alldeerpathreads.weebly.com)) is a new program that Patti is launching this year. The goals are to promote reading, to promote a culture of literacy, to promote family literacy, to build a community, and to start conversations among students, teachers and parents.
- The book chosen is Candy Bomber: The Story of the Berlin Airlift's "Chocolate Pilot" by Michael O. Tunnell. This is a Rebecca Caudill book – one of 20 selected to be read and voted on by students. DPM participates in this program; each student who reads 3 or more books can vote for their favorite.
- Candy Bomber was chosen as the book because it integrates the character traits of the school's emotional wellness initiative, it is non-fiction, it is short, and it has a lot of photos (which is good for younger siblings).



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- The book is available at the DPM media center, the LF Library and on Kindle for \$4.19.
- Please visit the website for resources about the real “Chocolate Pilot” and the Berlin blockade. On the website you will also find an online discussion about the book with discussion questions that you can use with your family. You can make comments online and you can use the “Have an idea” button to submit a question of your own. Website – resources about man and about Berlin blockade
- The program will officially be rolled out Thursday, September 19, at Curriculum Night. There will also be a link in the Friday Flyer.

*Q – How will the program be rolled out to students to get them excited?*

*A – Edmodo, LA and Social Studies teachers*

*Q – How many books will be part of this program?*

*A – Only one this year, but we will see what happens and make adjustments in future years.*

### **Administrator Reports**

#### **Tom Cardamone, Principal 5/6 and Michael Kroll, Assistant Principal 5/6**

- Tom introduced himself and expressed his excitement about serving a second year as Principal at DPME. The school year has gotten off to a great start and the energy level is high. Michael has been a great addition to the team.
- Michael introduced himself and said he has had a great transition into his new position. He comes from the Wilmette school district, where he was coordinating a socio-emotional program for kids with special needs. Tom has helped make the transition smooth and Michael feels confident in his active role right off the bat.
- Tom talked about the procedure used to hire the new Assistant Principal. It was a collaborative effort, involving parents, teachers and administrators, and began with a paper screening of 80 candidates. Through due diligence, the pool of candidates was narrowed to 4 and the committee is confident that they hired the right person for the job.
- Tom informed the group that there has been an effort to determine “What do we believe in?” on the 5/6 side. This is a discussion that involves both staff



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and administration. The results will be prominently displayed on Curriculum Night.

- This year there are 30 new students at DPME. The new family orientation went very well and there has been a follow-up lunch with new students as well.
- Curriculum Night is this Thursday, September 19, from 6:30-8:40p.m. The evening will start in the Peck Gym. Schedules will be sent home with students this week.
- The 5<sup>th</sup> grade completed their outdoor education, which focuses on teambuilding/teamwork. This year, the students went to a new site. There have been mixed reviews and opinions will be taken into account when assessing the program for future years.
- Tom is also director of performing arts for the District. Last Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> grade band performed at the LFHS football game. It was a great performance and a terrific way to showcase our students' talent.
- Tomorrow there will be an Activity Fair during lunches. The clubs offered for 5/6 (8 or 9 clubs) will have information for students.

### **Renee DeVore, Principal 7/8 and Paul Suminski, Assistant Principal 7/8**

- Renee introduced herself and said she is excited for her second year as Principal of 7/8. She has a great feeling of confidence and a high energy comes with that.
- Paul introduced himself. He is serving his third year as Assistant Principal. The year is off to a great and exciting start.
- Renee told the group that as part of the Capturing Kids Hearts training, a new emphasis is being placed on welcoming students to the school. Renee will be outside greeting students each day (and will even bundle up in her parka come winter weather!). This kind of interaction is important and is expected throughout the building.
- Renee said the 7/8 students are a kind and respectful group. They are low-key and there is a great vibe in DPMW.
- There are 34 new students and the APT New Families committee did a great job with orientation.
- Thanks to the APT Social committee for a delicious lunch on Institute Day.



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- There will be an Activity Fair tomorrow during lunches. There are some new clubs being offered this year, including a robotics club (for 6-8), a Minecraft club run by the STEM teacher, and an online newspaper (5-8) run by Ms. Hardy.
- Advisory is something that is always being assessed and it is important to get student input too. This year the theme for 7<sup>th</sup> grade is “rights” and for 8<sup>th</sup> grade is “service.” Student choice was a big part of this and it is still a work in progress. The end goal is to create something tangible and have a gallery walk to display the work.
- Curriculum Night is next Thursday. The format will be similar to 5/6 and students will bring home a schedule.
- Renee will host a “Coffee with the Principal” on the Monday after Curriculum Night. It will be from 9:30-10:30a.m. in the Haskins Center.
- Paul discussed athletics. Cross country, co-ed soccer and volleyball have all started. Intermural sports will start next week and are on a show up or sign up basis. Cheerleading and basketball start in October.
- Paul emphasized that a current physical is needed for all students who wish to try out for an interscholastic sport.
- Paul told the group that the fitness center is open for students in grades 5-8 in the mornings and is run by the Wellness Department.
- Please see the student handbook for dates of tryouts, etc.

*Q – Can the tryout dates be posted on the calendar? If you didn’t go to the athletic meeting, your child may have missed tryouts.*

*A – Winter sports are now posted and the Athletic meeting will be a week earlier next year.*

- Renee discussed the three late start days for DPM this year. Two hours of each day will be devoted to professional development. In past years, faculty did not have a set time for professional development and much of their planning took place on their own time (e.g. Holocaust program for last year’s 8<sup>th</sup> grade). The professional development will focus on the Capturing Kids Hearts program to create a positive school environment. Both faculty and administration will be involved in creating agendas for these days. For parents with child care concerns on these late start days, CROYA will offer supervised and organized time for students.



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*Q – On late start days, will buses run 2 hours late?*

*A – Yes. The 3 dates also coincide with LFHS late starts.*

*Q – What will the students schedules be like on those dates?*

*A – The idea is to shorten each period of the day, not lose a period(s).*

*Q – How can parents find out about clubs offered?*

*A – Once the new District website is rolled out, the clubs information will be kept updated. For now, have your child collect information at the Activity Fairs. The clubs are often an open format, so students can come to meetings even if they missed the first one.*

*Q – Do you need more parent volunteers for the new clubs?*

*A – No. We have staff sponsors and teachers to help.*

*Q – Is the Robotics club associated with Brainstormers?*

*A – No, it's a pilot program and we're keeping it for grades 6-8. We will see what the interest level is and reassess for next year.*

*Q – The new focus on the school culture is great. Will it be a focus for the elementary schools too?*

*A – Yes, it's a district wide effort linked to the Capturing Kids Heart training. The entire staff received 4 hours of training at the beginning of school, which gave everyone a taste for the training, even those who haven't attended yet).*

### **Laura Montgomery – Teacher Liaison**

- Thank you to the APT Social committee for the welcome back breakfast.
- The faculty and staff are looking forward to sharing with parents on Curriculum Night.
- The teachers are your first line of communication with your children, so please reach out to teachers if you have a question or concern.
- There are many ways to get information - Edmodo, Powerschool, email, etc.
- There will be a training session for parents about Edmodo and Google Docs today in the Cube at 1:30p.m.
- Feel free to stop in the Cube on Curriculum Night too. If you are unsure about setting up Powerschool and Edmodo, etc., we are there to help.



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*Q – What are teachers expected to post on Edmodo? Some post every week, others sporadically. Is there a way to get teachers to post consistently?*

*A – We do have some standards. If you feel like you aren't getting info or you aren't getting consistent info, share your concerns with your child's teacher and/or administration/media specialists.*

*Q – When is next day homework supposed to be posted?*

*A – The expectation is for teachers to post by 5pm and if that's not happening, let teacher know and also let administration/media specialists know if they can help.*

### **Officer Reports**

#### **President – Christie Theis**

- Please contact Dawn Wheldon, our volunteer coordinator, if you are interested in volunteering for various APT-sponsored school events.
- There is not late fee to join APT, so if you aren't a member, please join!

#### **Vice President / Communications – Susan Lewin**

Current Month - Activities:

First I would like to make everyone aware that we have a new DPM APT website:  
<http://lf67dpmapt.weebly.com>

Please bookmark this site. If you land on the previous site you will be redirected.

#### **Procedure to communicate DPM APT events and information**

The guidelines below outline the procedure for you to follow when communicating an APT event or information to the Deer Path Middle School parent community.

When you or your committee has information to be shared in the DPM Friday e-newsletter (Friday Flyer), calendar (meeting dates) or DPM website, please email me your information. I will proof read it then send the information to the school principal or Janice Patterson for distribution.

This procedure is for **DPM** APT related events only.

District-wide information is to be communicated through the APT Executive Board.

#### **Messages for the Friday e-newsletter (Friday Flyer) should:**

Include "APT" or "APT sponsored" in the title



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Be short, to the point (try for less than three lines); if a longer message is needed I can request that the Friday Flyer blurb be linked to the additional details.

Be emailed to me by noon Wednesday for inclusion in that Friday's newsletter

Be emailed to me each week if the message is to run for multiple weeks

### **Messages for the DPM website should:**

Include "APT" or "APT sponsored" in the title

Should be short/attention grabbing and can be emailed to me at anytime

**Dates for the DPM calendar** should be emailed to me as soon as you know them. I will forward them to the DPM office to be posted on the school's online calendar.

### **Sandwich Boards**

If your committee would like to use the sandwich boards we share with the Spirit, please email me a copy of the poster, dates needed (5 day max usage per event), location at school where the board should be placed (default is front entrances for morning drop-off and back of school for afternoon pick-up), and your committee contact name (person responsible for inserting the poster). I will review the poster content and seek approval from our principals, then schedule with District Facilities. These procedures can be found on the DPM APT website, as well as the current calendar of events already scheduled.

This communication procedure allows for greater accuracy in our APT messages and streamlines the process for our principals and the office staff.

### **Pictures**

We are always looking for pictures of our APT in action! Please send me a shot or two of any DPM APT event you are sponsoring or attending and I will put them on our DPM APT website as well as distribute to the District office for possible publication.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Coming Month - Plans:

Ongoing website updates

**Secretary - Tiffany Wiesner**



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- You should all be receiving emails from me. If you aren't, please check your contact info listed on the Roster.
- Please see the Community Liaison report for lots of great info about upcoming events in our community.
- Please leave your name tents and I will bring them to each meeting.

### **Treasurer - Lindsay Seaman**

- Lindsay handed out a budget, procedures for requesting a check reimbursement and tax exempt form. These are also posted on the website (except the tax exempt form).
- If your committee does not have a budget, do not spend money until you talk to Lindsay first!
- We do not reimburse tax.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Art Fair - Heather Milligan, Lisa Lekberg, Lexie Knox, Cecily Lynch**

No report this month.

### **Board of Education Liaison - Jennifer Karras, Maria Allen**

No report this month.

### **Culture Fair Grade 6 - Mari Simeck, Tiffany Notz**

No report this month.

### **Culture Fair Grade 5 - Kristin O'Neill, Sarah Marshall**

No report this month.

### **Community Liaison - Beth Laufenberg**





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To prepare all students for life-long learning. District 67 Mission Statement



Community Wellness Task Force, CROYA, Gorton, LF Rec Center, LF/LB LDA, Open Lands

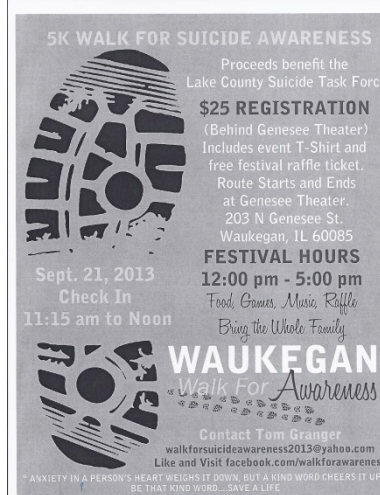
## September 11, 2013 Report to APT Executive Board

### **COMMUNITY WELLNESS TASK FORCE:** is

promoting the 5K Walk for Suicide Awareness on September 21 with check-in beginning at 11:15 and the festival scheduled to run until 5:00. Proceeds to benefit the Lake County Suicide Task Force. Entry forms were made available at the meeting. Contact Tom Granger for more information at [walkforsuicideawareness2013@yahoo.com](mailto:walkforsuicideawareness2013@yahoo.com)

**CROYA:** submitted information after the meeting so it was not mentioned at the Exec Meeting but will be distributed to the 4 schools to be read at their APT meetings.

1. CROYA Middle School Dance is Sat., Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>. The Dance will be in the Rec. Center gym, and CROYA will be open as well. \$5 tickets must be purchased in advance during specified lunch periods at the schools, or at the CROYA facility.





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2. We have an opening for a new CROYA youth worker. I've attached the announcement (deadline to apply is Mon., Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>). The youth will be the ones who do the final voting on the candidates!
3. CROYA Student Union drop-in is every day after school 3:30 – 5:30pm.
4. Middle School "Treat Tuesdays" are from 4:00 – 5:00pm, which include a youth meeting for announcements and signing up for programs, a game, and a fun snack.
5. Go to [www.croya.com](http://www.croya.com) to sign up for CROYA's monthly e-newsletter to receive the "Top 10 Things Happening at CROYA".

**GORTON:** no information was submitted however the very popular Sixth Grade Grotto Dance was announced. The Friday evening dance is Sold Out and tickets are still available for the Saturday, September 28 date.



## The Gorton Community Center Holiday Shop for Kids Needs YOUR Help

Come help our children get into the holiday spirit, and  
celebrate the reason for the season!

Wednesday, December 4

2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**We are looking for:**

**Teen Volunteers to be Elves**

**Adult Volunteers to be Wrappers**



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**Vendors for the Children's Shop to sell items under \$10**

**Vendors for the Drop-In Center Holiday Boutique**

**If you are interested, please call us at 847-234-6060**

### **LAKE FOREST RECREATION:**

submitted information on Everett Park Family Picnic at the Park (Saturday, September 14), Scarecrow Making Contest, open registration on all Fall activities and a promotional offer for all new members to the Lake Forest Recreation. I reported on Everett Park Picnic & Adopt a Beach Clean-Up event as both were the nearest in time.

#### **Fall Registration has started!**

What inspires you to play? How about a Fall season filled with fun and fabulous recreational activities! Once again the Lake Forest Parks and Recreation Department has developed an outstanding line-up of activities for all ages. Don't wait too late; you don't want your favorite classes to get canceled.

Visit [www.LFRec.com](http://www.LFRec.com) to sign up for what inspires you and your family to play!

### **Picnic in the Park Held at Everett Park Sept. 21st 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm**

Go back in time to an old fashioned picnic in the park with your family enjoying a fun relaxing afternoon. We'll take you there again, you bring the blanket, picnic basket and we will supply the fun at our beautiful Everett Park!

Everett Park features a full size playground, tennis courts and fenced in youth baseball field. Activities will include: Basketball, Kickball, Tennis, Frisbee, Football, Volleyball & Baggo. Families are encouraged to bring toys and games as well.

Bring your picnic lunch, come out and play some games and have a great family fun day in our beautiful Everett Park! This free event is brought to you by Lake Forest Parks and Recreation, if you have questions please contact the office at 847-234-6700.





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### Adopt - a - Beach Clean Up

Join volunteers in caring for McCormick Ravine Beach by removing litter and collecting information on beach health. Lunch will be provided by Whole Foods, Deerfield following the workday. Please make sure to dress for the weather and bring plenty of water and/or snacks. There is a 1/4 mile long hike to the beach which involves traversing a steep, terraced bluff. Work gloves, safety glasses and tools will be provided.

**DATE:** Saturday, September 14, 2013

**TIME:** 9a.m. - 11a.m.

**LOCATION:** McCormick Ravine Beach

**OPEN LANDS CONTACT:** Michael Hahn, [mhahn@ifola.org](mailto:mhahn@ifola.org) 847-707-9878

**CITY OF LAKE FOREST CONTACT:** Chuck Myers, [myersc@cityoflakeforest.com](mailto:myersc@cityoflakeforest.com)

### Lake Forest Fitness Center September Promotion

Kids are back in school, make time for yourself! If you join the Lake Forest Fitness Center in the month of September 2013, you will not pay an enrollment fee! That's a \$50 savings. (*applies to NEW annual memberships only*) This includes two complimentary 1/2 hour training sessions with a Certified Personal Trainer, 2 free guest passes and a special introductory rates on Personal Training: 3 Hours / \$99. With all of this you will increase energy, reduce stress, control weight, improve you muscle tone and build strength. **Make time for yourself, get started today!**



*See the membership desk for more information see full flyer, or contact Jason Busdeker. Offer ends September 30, 2013*

### **SCARECROW MAKING CONTEST – Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> 12:00 noon – 2:00pm**

The Scarecrow Making Contest is open to any school, youth organization/facility, neighborhood group, family or individual, business, office group, everyone! Please register by Thursday, October 3, 2013 if you would like to participate. A \$25.00 fee will provide you with the hay and a pumpkin head. You bring old clothes, hats, any scarecrow accessories and an active imagination. Scarecrows will be mounted on fence post provided by the Parks Dept. Refreshments will be served. Scarecrows will be on display at Market Square until October 21 when they can be taken home if desired. Sign up at LFTRec.com. If you have questions contact Joe Mobile, Program Manager at 847-810-3941. Code #32398



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### **CROctoberFEST AT THE WILDLIFE DISCOVERY CENTER! – Oct. 19th 10:00-2:00pm**

**CROctoberfest** will be held at the Wildlife Discovery Center, 1401 Middlefork Drive, Lake Forest. Your **\$5 per person** recommended donation, payable at the door, will help the WDC maintain the high-level of care we provide all of our animals. Additionally, a portion of the proceeds will help support crocodile conservation. Be sure to mark your calendar and tell your friends about **CROctoberfest!** For more details, visit [www.wildlifediscoverycenter.org](http://www.wildlifediscoverycenter.org). *If you or your business would like to sponsor this special community event, contact Rob Carmichael at [carmichr@cityoflakeforest.com](mailto:carmichr@cityoflakeforest.com) to talk about the benefits of sponsorship.*

### **DANCE-A-THON BENEFIT Sunday October 20, 2013 1:00 pm -4:00 pm**

Lake Forest Dance Academy is excited to be holding its 8th Annual Dance-A-Thon Benefit, '**Company Cares**', a fun and exciting day of movement exploration. Profits benefit a charity chosen by the Performance Groups who will then showcase their guest choreography at the close of the day. Suitable for all interested participants from ages 8-80. No dance experience necessary! Showcase open to non-participants as well as those registered. Showcase will begin at 4 pm. Come join us for a day of movement, music and fun! For more information contact Valerie Gonzalez at 847-810-3944. Code #32968

### **HALLOWEEN PARTY – Friday, Oct. 25th 5:00pm – 8:00pm NEW DAY & TIME**

There will be lots of refreshments and treats for all. Entertainment, games and a haunted house will provide plenty of fun for Lake Forest preschoolers through 3rd graders and parents. There is no admission fee. This event is sponsored by Forest Orthodontics and Pediatric Dentistry. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 847-234-6700. Sign up today for the haunting experience today at [www.LFRec.com](http://www.LFRec.com). Code# 32399

## **LF/LB LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION:**

Please let the APT board know the LDA is getting ready for our grant process. The grants are to further the education of children with learning differences and assist those responsible for their education. For a school to be eligible to receive grant funds, we required the school to have an LDA parent liaison. Currently, Cherokee, Sheridan, and the Transition Program do not have parent volunteers to be school representatives. I have attached a letter introducing the LDA and a list of items granted last year. If anyone is interested, please have them contact me at 847-812-6359.



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Last year close to \$50,000 in grants were awarded to our schools for items such as smart boards, stand up desks, iPads, and Nook Readers.

Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Learning Disabilities Association (**LDA**) is a non-profit organization where parents, educators and professionals come together to support, educate, and provide resources for our children and each other. **We believe that every child learns differently and can be successful with the right tools and opportunities.**

Since 1988, our group of volunteers has been dedicated to enhancing the learning experience of our children in the Lake Forest and Lake Bluff communities through awareness, education, and advocacy. We accomplish our goals through the following:

- **“Make a Difference” Grant Program**
- Educational Speaker Series
- October National Disabilities Awareness Events
- **Spring Marche Fundraiser**

This year the LDA awarded close to **\$50,000 in grants** to our community schools, providing them with **smart boards, standup desks, iPads, sensory items** and other learning tools.

**We welcome you to join us as we celebrate 25 years of commitment to our children.** If you are interested in learning more about us, please contact us at [lflbllda@gmail.com](mailto:lflbllda@gmail.com), or call Ann Papesch at 847-812-6359 or Barb Moore at 773-844-5808. Additional information and resources can be found on our website.

***“Supporting Our Community One Mind at a Time”***



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### **Directory / Membership – Kate Bryant, Michelle Curry**

No report this month.

### **Emotional Wellness – Cindy Anderson, Micaiah Robinson**

No report this month.

### **Fifth Grade Welcome – Mary Brennan, Theresa Speed**

Here is a brief summary of the WEB day:

The WEB team welcomed the new 5th graders during WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) Orientation on Friday, August 23. The day was led by Rebecca Leafman (Director of Emotional Wellness), and teachers, Ken Smith, Natalie Bolgrien, Krisha Yob, Catherine Wickham, Jadie Johnson and 50 8th grade WEB leaders who volunteered and applied for their position. The APT chairpersons were Theresa Speed and Mary Brennan.

The 5th graders participated in a number of "get to know you" and team building exercises both as a large group and also with smaller groups headed by two 8th grade WEB leaders. They toured the school and finished the day with a pizza lunch and were give a DPM Class of 2017 t-shirt to bring home. The 5th graders will meet with their WEB groups periodically throughout the school year.

The APT parents helped the administration and teachers with preparing for the day as well as taking group photos and directing the children on the day of the event.



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### **Issues:**

Everything went great. We did suggest to Rebecca Leafman that she did not need parent volunteers in the afternoon directing the students and traffic. The teachers and administration handled that beautifully this year.

### **Fine Arts – Amy Kelly, Kristin Fitzgerald**

- On October 1, DPM will have its Fine Arts program:  
**Mojo and The Bayou Gypsies** (Grades 5-8)  
Mojo and the Bayou Gypsies are talented musicians who entertain their audience with original music and dancing in the Southwest Louisiana Zydeco, Cajun, and New Orleans traditions. This unique style of music can typically only be found in Louisiana, which exposes our students to a fascinating culture.
- This is a tough grade level for finding good fine arts programs, so please share any ideas you might have.

### **Food Service – Melinda Hill**

No report this month.

### **Class of 2014 Activities – Anne Skinner, Martha Avery, Megan Morris, Penelope Boardman**

Current Month - Activities:

The Committee, Megan particularly, is currently actively planning the **Class of 2014 Community Service Day**. The service date is **Friday 25 October**. Each student in the entire grade is expected to volunteer at one of a choice of 15-16 charitable and/or service organizations throughout Lake County. A meeting with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students has been scheduled for **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September** in the lecture room during the lunch period, beginning at 11:40 a.m.

Coming Month Plans: **A PEP RALLY** is scheduled for **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October, at 11 a.m.** in the auditorium. This is our 25 minute opportunity to rev the students' enthusiasm and spirit for their graduation celebration activities throughout the year. We will describe the service day, inform that we have secured Marz the DJ for





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the dance night, and urge them to show off their talents at the talent show fundraiser.

Issues: The immediate issue is inspiring parent participation as volunteer chaperones for service day. There will be any number of parent volunteer opportunities related to tracking students' independent volunteer hours throughout the year, talent show opportunities, and the dance.

Important dates are: **Service Permission slips are due on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October**

**Service Day is 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Talent Show is November 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>

The Dance is 30<sup>th</sup> May 2014

Graduation is Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014

**LFHS Liaison - Melanie Thornberry**



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## Monthly DPM APT Executive Board Report

Month/Year: September 2013

Position: LFHS APT Liaison

Submitted by: Melanie Thornberry

### Current Month – Activities:

- LFHS APT Meeting – Wednesday, September 4, 2013
  - Introduction of **Mr. Barry Rodgers** as the new LFHS Principal  
Most recently served as principal of Northside College Prep High School, ranked the #1 School in Illinois by Newsweek, US News, Chicago Tribune, Chicago Sun Times and Chicago Magazine.
  - Introduction of **Lauren Fagel** as the new Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Instruction, Technology and Assessment. Most recently served as Principal of Mundelein Consolidated High School, District 120, for five years.
- Be True To Your School – Saturday, September 7<sup>th</sup> Elawa Farms  
LFHS APT parent gathering at Elawa Farms that included a live Auction and live music from the LFHS Jazz Band and Choir.
- LFHS Open House - Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>
- LFHS Homecoming
  - Town Windows Painting starting Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Homecoming Varsity Football Game, Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30 pm
  - Pep Rally Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Homecoming Dance Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

### Coming Month Plans:

- LFHS APT Parent Awareness is hosting a “**Parents’ Speaker Series**” this year. The following are programs planned this school year specifically targeted to parents of teens:
  - Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>** - "Leaving Home: A Survival Guide for Parents and Students" – LEAD Keynote Speaker, Dr. Maureen Powers
  - Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>** - "The Secrets of Happy Families: Improve Your Mornings, Rethink Family Dinner, Fight Smarter, Go Out and Play, and much more" - LEAD Keynote Speaker, Author, Bruce Feiler.



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### **New Families – LeaAnne LaVanway, Janita Reehl**

#### **Current Month – Activities:**

On August 19, 2013 we hosted the annual New Families Orientation and Tours for DPM East and West. Separate orientations were held for the east and west side students. Effort students provided tours of the school for the students while parents were introduced to a number of Deer Path administrative staff members. Mr. Cardamone and Mr. Kroll presented to 5/6<sup>th</sup> grade parents while Ms. DeVore and Mr. Suminiski addressed the 7/8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. Christie Theis spoke on behalf of Deer Path's APT and Martha Zeeman spoke on behalf of the Spirit of 67.

5<sup>th</sup> grade: 10 new students

6<sup>th</sup> grade: 18 new students; 4 registered that day

7<sup>th</sup> grade: 16 new students

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 15 new students; 1 registered that day.

Since the Orientation:

6<sup>th</sup> grade: 2 new students registered

7<sup>th</sup> grade: 1 new student

8<sup>th</sup> grade: 3 new students

#### **Total: 56 new families, 65 students through 9-7-13**

Each family received a folder of information. We gave one folder per family, not one per student. Additional folders are housed in each DPM office and staff provide one to each family that registers after the Orientation.

LeaAnne sent an email to all new 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents letting them know about Grotto and that tickets do sell out. The email asked if they had any questions and a parent of a 6<sup>th</sup> grade boy did contact LeaAnne with additional DPM questions.

Special thanks to Emilie Correa and Kristin Tiveron for coordinating the 11 Effort students who helped with tours and to Anne Simmons for providing coffee for the parents and pizza for the Effort students.

Our costs were \$100 for the coffee and 4 pizzas which were provided by Quest, plus \$58.92 for water, cookies, and Izze cans purchased for the event. Nametags were purchased, but not submitted for reimbursement.



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### **Coming Month – Plans:**

Continue to monitor new DPM families through out the year and to make sure DPM office does not run out of folders for new families.

Follow-up by email with new families in January to check in and make sure everything is going well.

### **Issues:**

**Location:** Location was originally scheduled for the CUBE for both 5/6 and 7/8 sessions. Location was changed on the Thursday before the Monday orientation due to construction. East was held in IRC and West was held in Haskins Center. Families were able to locate the new location(s), but this created logistical issues for the New Families committee.

We had coffee and cookies set up in each location-(coffee contracted with Quest Food service and they were able to provide 2 set-ups with no problem). We purchased water and cookies and set that out ourselves to save money. We had to transport the cookies, water, and folders for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Orientation from the East side to the West side. This required locating a cart, getting the elevator key from the West office and taking everything to Haskins between the 2 sessions. The first session ran long and parents wanted to chat with the Committee and ask questions. By the time we were able to break away and get over the Haskins, many families had already arrived and were waiting in Haskins. We had to hurry to organize the folders, check-in sheets, schedules, and snacks.

**Recommendation:** Hold both Orientation sessions in the same location if at all possible

Another issue was the location of the snacks in Haskins Center. The tables were set up adjacent to the seating area, and toward the front of the room. This made it difficult to get to the food.

**Recommendation:** When using Haskins, set up sign up and snack tables behind the seating/presentation area, and close to where people enter for the program.



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### **Parent Awareness – Jorie Alutto, Theresa Speed**

#### Current Month - Activities:

As your Parent Awareness Representatives, we'd like to help provide the resources you need to do your job as parents. Therefore each month at the building APT meetings we will ask for 'Hot Parenting Topics' that parents would like help with. Your input will be used by us and administration to identify new content for the Parent Resource Corner on the District 67 website. Examples of Hot Parenting Topics could include homework help, balancing it all, media use, etc.

Are there any 'Hot Parenting Topics' that you would like us to bring forward today? (Solicit ideas now)

If you think of other ideas, please email Jorie or Theresa at any time. Thanks!

#### Coming Month - Plans:

### **What's Next for Me? Changing Times, Changing Bodies**

October 26 or November 16 from 9 a.m. - noon

Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital

Taught by a nurse for Northwestern Lake Forest Hospital, this class will provide accurate and concise information and assist parents in guiding their daughter through puberty and beyond. It will explore the physical, emotional, physiological and social aspects of what's normal and how to adjust to these variances in their lives.

This class is for pre-adolescent girls (9 to 12 years of age) and their mother or adult support person. Registration is required. Register at [lfh.org](http://lfh.org). The fee is \$30 per couple and includes breakfast.

### **Red Ribbon Week**

October 21-25

LEAD will supply age-appropriate talking points to Parent Awareness to disseminate about talking to our kids about the meaning of Red Ribbon Week.

### **Red Ribbon Race**

Saturday, November 2nd

8:30 a.m. at Elawa Farms

Register at [www.leadingefforts.org](http://www.leadingefforts.org)

### **LEAD's Parent University Keynote Speaker**

Noted author Bruce Feiler will share "The Keys to a Happy Family"



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November 6th at 7 pm

Gorton Community Center

Worry About Family Dinner, Ditch Date Night and Let Your Kids Pick their Punishments? Are These the Keys to a Happy Family? Bruce Feiler is the author of five consecutive New York Times bestsellers. His latest book, *The Secrets of Happy Families* (Feb. 2013), is a bold playbook for families today. It collects best practices for modern-day parents from some of the world's most creative minds. Parents will walk away from this personal, highly practical talk with a fresh outlook on life and a host of techniques to make their families closer, stronger, and happier.

### **LEAD Podcasts**

Can't get to a seminar? LEAD is producing podcasts for parents on the go. Available topics now include: Parenting out of Strength, Not Fear, Loving Well, and What Teenagers would like their Parents to Know". Topics will change weekly, and can be accessed through LEAD's website, [leadingefforts.org](http://leadingefforts.org)

### **Room Parent Coordinators – Michelle Curry (5), Jan MacDougal (6), Maria Allen (7), Catherine Yehle (8)**

*Current Month - Activities:*

Room Parents have been recruited for all 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade homerooms. Room Parent Handbooks and Food/Snack Guidelines have been distributed to each of them.

Room Parents have scheduled meetings with homeroom teachers and are ready to sign up volunteers for classroom activities at Curriculum night. We have asked them to include a request for field day volunteers as well. Additionally, we will add a fruit/baking volunteer slot as requested by the social committee. A comprehensive list of parent contact information will also be collected and shared with each homeroom once compiled.

### **School Supplies – Kathy Ivinjack 7/8, Tiffany Wiesner 5/6**

All School Pak orders were successfully delivered prior to the start of school. DPM ordered 487 paks this year which was up 11.7 %from last year.



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Total orders throughout the district were also up by 7.4% this year. All orders were taken on line and School- Pak offers a commission on all orders placed through the link on the District website. This amount has not been determined yet but the APT has requested that any money earned be paid to the SPIRIT of 67 Foundation. Last year, that number was \$433.86 which was also donated to the SPIRIT.

### **Social – Sushama Krishnaswamy, Marra Lochiatto, Germaine Arnson, Rebecca Oline, Lynne Kennedy, Julie Slobodnik**

The Social Committee held the annual Back to School Staff Luncheon on Tuesday, August 27th, after the walk throughs. Approximately 140 teachers/staff were in attendance. Menu included assorted wraps, two types of salads, potato chips, assorted desserts, and sodas. Catering was provided by Kenny's of Lake Bluff. The lunch went very well and the staff was most appreciative! Our next two events are the upcoming bagel breakfasts following both 5/6 and 7/8 curriculum nights.

### **Spiritwear – Liz Olsen**

- The Walk Thru sales (cash and carry) generated about \$400.
- This is not an APT fundraiser.
- Costs kept down because all schools order spiritwear from Kiddles.
- Order forms for the fall sale are due Friday, September 20. There is only one sale this year – no spring sale. – see website, turn in by Fri 9/20
- Kiddles will be selling spiritwear on Curriculum Night too.

### **STEM – Jenny Zinser**

No report this month.

### **Spirit of 67 Specialist – Lynne Kennedy, Natalie Torcolese**

Current Month - Activities:

- Our membership donations are way up versus this time last year – almost \$68,000 versus \$47,000 in 2012. DPM is roughly around 30% participation at this point (242 families) compared to the last two years when participation was around 17% (162 families in FY 12/13 and 155 families in FY 11/12). District-wide participation is somewhere around 29%. The



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increase is attributed to being allowed once again to have a hard copy of the membership form go out in the school registration fee packet. You can donate on-line or I have some forms here.

- Many thanks to Renee Devore for her huge “Support Spirit” plug in last week’s Friday Flyer.
- Thank you to all of our parents and students who modeled in the “Red Carpet on the Green” fashion show last week in Market Square as well as to all those who attended. Also, many thanks to the merchants who participated and donated 10% back to the Spirit for designated purchases made Sept 12-14.
- Invitations have gone out for the Spirit’s Annual Fall Luncheon which will be held at Exmoor Country Club on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:30-2:30 p.m. Reservations are due by October 9<sup>th</sup>. This event has sold out in the past so don’t delay. You can also purchase tickets on the Spirit website at [www.spiritof67foundation.org](http://www.spiritof67foundation.org). Discounted tickets are available to Spirit donors so another good reason to join today. Spirit member price is \$67.00 and non-member price is \$97.00.
- The Spirit Foundation’s “Spirit Week” and the District’s “Spirit Week” are going to coincide with each other this year which will be Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> leading up to the Fall Luncheon on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.
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- The Capturing Kids' Hearts Grant was funded by the Spirit with a focus on social and emotional development. This grant will help provide professional development for administrators, faculty and staff to build positive, productive and trusting relationships among themselves and with their students. Middle school students will have four late start days this year so that the teachers who attended the initial training will be training the rest of the middle school staff during these late start days. To see the impact which the training had on the faculty who attended, you can go to: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeDKUbjOe6o>
- Looking ahead, please note that the Home Tour will no longer be the first Thursday of May but the second. So mark your calendars now for Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup> 2014.

**Student Council 5/6 – Camille Prindle, Natalie Torcolese**





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The first meeting for Student Council will be Thursday, September 26 from 7:45 – 8:25. Student Council (or “STUCO”) is an opportunity for students to participate, have their voices heard, and to develop leadership skills which will last a lifetime. Any student with an interest in participating beyond the classroom -- for the good of the school -- may join. Leaders come in all shapes and sizes, and everyone has a strength that they can offer. Our members represent not only their individual classrooms, but the entire school, as well. Student Council is run by Mr. Weber and Mr. Smith and meetings are held every other Thursday morning from 7:45 – 8:25 - the schedule is posted on the Deer Path website.

### **Student Council 7/8 – Sandy Steiner**

Current Month - Activities:

The Executive Board is in the process of brainstorming a fall event (other than a dance) and will look to the full 7/8 StuCo for input in the coming weeks.

Coming Month - Plans:

The Executive Board met once and Full StuCo meetings this year are planned for 9/19, 10/3, 10/17, 10/31, 11/14, 12/12, 12/19. Students are encouraged to join Student Council and be a part of great leadership, service and social opportunities.

Issues:

None at this time.

### **Effort – Jolene Watkins, Micaiah Robinson**

No report this month.

### **Teacher Appreciation – Cecily Lynch**

No report this month.

### **Volunteer Coordinator – Dawn Wheldon**

No report this month.

### **Visiting Author – Anna McEvoy, Carolann Stickler**



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- The DPM visiting author is Tim Green and he is coming April 10-11.
- He donates all of his proceeds to buy books for underprivileged kids.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tiffany Wiesner  
Recording Secretary